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"justification by faith" in the form in which it has been held by modern Protestants. Ullman's memoir embraces all that is known of the good monk, with a critical analysis of his writings; and this renders the present edition of "The Imitation" preferable to any other. Of the work itself it is superfluous to speak. On the table, in the closet of every Christian, if there are but two books, this should be the second.

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15. — *Western Africa: its History, Condition, and Prospects.* By REV. J. LEIGHTON WILSON, eighteen Years a Missionary in Africa, and now one of the Secretaries of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. With numerous Engravings. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1856. 12mo. pp. 527.

THIS book is another of the very numerous contributions made by the missionary enterprise to the world's science and knowledge. It leaves nothing to be desired as regards the topography, history, social state, and capabilities of the vast region which it covers. It is hopeful in its view of what Christian philanthropy may do for Africa. It seems to us one of the most strongly marked books of the year. It has no attractiveness of style; but it possesses the merit of painstaking accuracy, and is a precious memorial of the author's skill and energy as an explorer, no less than of his zeal and heroism as a captain in the "sacramental host."

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16. — *The Recent Progress of Astronomy; especially in the United States.* By ELIAS LOOMIS, LL. D., Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy in the University of the City of New York. Third Edition, mostly rewritten and much enlarged. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1856. 12mo. pp. 396.

It would require a full-length article to say what we should wish to say concerning this treatise. With improved instruments and rapidly multiplied observatories, the last twenty years, without essentially modifying previous theories, have greatly enriched the domain of descriptive astronomy, and accumulated ample materials for larger generalizations. Professor Loomis's work comprises not only the discoveries of these latter years, but descriptions (with plates) of improved instruments and new observatories. The author, though for the most part he confines himself to narrative and description, enters occasionally upon the discussion of questions still open; as, for instance, with reference to the asteroids, which, he maintains by an elaborate and cumulative argument, are not fragments of a larger planet. It is gratifying to find how

prominent a place our own country is prepared to occupy in future discovery, both through the scientific genius now enlisted in astronomical observation and calculation, and by the means of prosecuting research afforded and maintained through public and private munificence. The recent endowment and inauguration of the Dudley Observatory mark a proud and hopeful epoch in the history of American science.

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17. — *The Camel. His Organization, Habits, and Uses, considered with Reference to his Introduction into the United States.* By GEORGE P. MARSH. Boston: Gould and Lincoln. 1856. 16mo. pp. 224.

IN this pleasant volume, Mr. Marsh has condensed a great deal of valuable and curious information, not only about the physiology and habits of the "Ship of the Desert," but about its proper use and management. His book is more than a treatise: it is as entertaining as a book of travels, and abounds in pictures from memory of life in the desert and in the East. In the earlier chapters there are evidences of that extensive scholarship and acquaintance with many tongues, for which the writer has so enviable a fame. We are not so sanguine as Mr. Marsh seems to be of success in the introduction of the camel on our Western plains and deserts, but we are glad that so good a beginning has been made in the experiment. The camel properly belongs to a rude and stationary civilization, which his slow pace and simple food aptly represent. We hope that the completion of the Pacific Railroad will forestall his race in New Mexico and Utah.

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18. — *Human Physiology, Statical and Dynamical: or the Conditions and Course of the Life of Man.* By JOHN WILLIAM DRAPER, M. D., LL. D., Professor of Chemistry and Physiology in the University of New York. Illustrated with nearly 300 Wood Engravings. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1856. 8vo. pp. 649.

THIS book comes to hand too late in our quarter for the critical examination which it deserves. We perceive, however, that it is full and thorough beyond all previous similar treatises that we have seen, and that as to descriptive detail and the entire theory of organization, it comprises the latest discoveries and embodies the latest conclusions of science. As to the more general reasonings, which form but a small portion of the volume, it will not command universal assent; and the closing chapter on "Social Mechanics," while it contains very valuable materials, seems to us to lack completeness and point.